REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Windows 98 Explorer screendumps, 1998, fig. 1-8 (Windows 98), in view of Horiyama (US 6,826,728). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Applicants note that the prior rejection was made under Section 102(e) based on Windows 98, whereas the current rejection is made under 103(a) based on the Windows 98 in view of Horiyama (US 6,826,728). In response to the prior rejection, Applicants distinguished the terms "textual description" and "string object information". Applicants stated that "string object information" could be seen as a compound object containing more than just a string. One example of this is a Chinese character that can be classified according to several principles, such as stroke count or stroke order. These characteristics of a "string object information" cannot be coded into any known standard such as Unicode. Applicants previously amended independent claims 1 and 13 to distinguish between "textual description" and "string object information".

In the current Office Action, the Examiner states that although Windows 98 does not disclose the element of a string object information comprising a compound object containing more than a textual description or string, Horiyama does at col. 1, lines 15-67, and col. 3, lines 47-67. However, Horiyama, at col. 3, lines 47-67 provides:

> FIG. 4 is a country information table. Country IDs such as "1", "2", "3", and "4" are allocated to country information such as "Japanese", "traditional-Chinese", "simplified-Chinese", "Korean", and the like in the country information table. In the embodiment, by selecting desired country information, the country and glyph data corresponding to the country ID are written into the font tables. The contents of the font tables are installed, a use language is established, and a document is formed. In the embodiment, FIG. 3A shows a case where Japanese (country ID is equal to "1") is designated as country information. FIG. 3B shows a case where traditional-Chinese (country ID is equal to "2") is designated as country information.
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> FIG. 5 is a flowchart for an application program showing a processing method of character data according to the invention. The

> application program is executed by the CPU 17. First in step S51, a list of fonts which can be installed is displayed on the CRT display 3. In step S52, subsequently, the type of font to be installed such as Ming or Gothic selected by the operation of the keyboard 1, pointing device 2, or the like by the user is designated. In step S53, characters of the designated type are specified. In step S54, a list of country information of the country ID of the characters specified by using the country information table in FIG. 4 is displayed on the CRT display 3.

As is clear from the foregoing, Horiyama is directed to the installation of font tables. In contrast, the present invention is directed to the display of string objects. Neither Windows 98 nor Horiyama disclose or suggest a method or apparatus for displaying string objects in accordance with claims 1 and 13.

Horiyama merely discloses installation of normal fonts to support plain text strings. Combining Windows 98 with Horiyama does not provide the same functionality as the present invention. Neither reference enables sorting in stroke counts, starting strokes, etc. in Chinese. The references cited by the Examiner only handle plain text string objects.

The combination of Windows 98 and Horiyama do not sort by user chosen properties that are intrinsic to the text string object itself. It is important to note that in Windows 98, no matter if one sorts ascending or descending, by name or modified time, etc., one is using "alphabetic order". And Horiyama is concerned with installing different fonts, which has nothing to do with sorting order. The present invention allows the user to select other orders that depend on properties such as pronunciation, stroke count, or first stroke of the text. Therefore, the allowance of claims 1-33 is respectfully requested.

3.) Prior Art Not Relied Upon

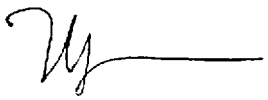
In the Conclusion paragraph of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that the prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the Applicants' disclosure. None of the cited references, alone or in combination, disclose or suggest the present invention.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-33.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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